



Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training

Quarterly Census of Rhode Island Employment & Wages

First Quarter Analysis 2004-2005



Rhode Island total employment averaged 465,697 in the first quarter of 2005, an increase of 3,548 (+0.8%) jobs when compared to the first quarter of 2004. Private sector employment grew by 5,546 (+1.4%) positions, while the Government sector lost 1,998 (-3.0%) jobs. Government employment at the State level declined by 1,027, followed by Local (-659) and Federal government (-312).

Employment in the Accommodation & Food Services sector grew by 1,611 (+4.3%), the largest sector employment gain between first quarter 2004 and first quarter 2005. The Food Services and Drinking Places sub-sector accounted for all but two of the new jobs, adding 1,069 positions. Health Care & Social Assistance added 1,279 (+1.8%) jobs, with large gains (+879) noted in the Ambulatory Health Care Services sub-sector. The Professional & Technical Services, Administrative & Waste Services, and Education sectors also reported sizable employment growth of 986, 920, and 895, respectively.

As noted earlier, Government employment was down nearly 2000 jobs from first quarter 2004. The Manufacturing sector reported a loss of 770 (-1.4%) jobs. The Computer and Electronic Product Manufacturing (-442) and Miscellaneous Manufacturing (-116) sub-sectors reported the largest Manufacturing job declines. Transportation & Warehousing (-344), Information (-314), Finance & Insurance (-204) and Retail trade (-122) were the only other sectors to experience an employment drop between first quarter of 2004 and first quarter of 2005.

Health Care & Social Assistance (71,824) employed the most Rhode Islanders in the first quarter of 2005. Despite the drop in employment, Government (64,423) and Manufacturing (55,578) continued to be among the largest employment sectors in the state. Retail Trade (51,644) and Accommodation & Food Services (39,507) also reported sizable employment totals.

Private sector employees earned over \$3.7 billion in wages during the first quarter of 2005, an increase of \$124 million (+3.5%) from the first quarter of 2004. The average weekly wage in the private sector increased by \$14, from \$696 to \$710, a 2.0 percent increase from the first quarter of 2004.

The average weekly wage in the Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting sector increased by \$82 in the first quarter of 2005, when compared to the first quarter of 2004. Other notable weekly wage increases were reported in Wholesale Trade (+\$47), Arts, Entertainment & Recreation (+\$23), Manufacturing (+\$19) and Administrative & Waste Services (+\$18).

Employees in the Management of Companies & Enterprises sector earned an average weekly wage of \$2,563, while workers in four of the twenty sectors, Utilities (\$1,272), Finance & Insurance (\$1,188), Information (\$1,135) and Wholesale Trade (\$1,022), earned an average weekly wage in excess of one-thousand dollars. *Quarterly bonuses and exercised stock options are included in the calculation and therefore may impact the average weekly wage.*

First Quarter 2005

	No. of Units	Jan	Feb	March	Average Employment	Total Wages	Taxable Wages	Contributions
Total	35,435	464,817	465,257	467,016	465,697	4,453,342,385	2,489,066,420	78,468,142
Private	34,755	400,502	400,695	402,623	401,273	3,705,868,698	2,484,081,300	78,317,591
State	106	16,694	16,693	16,632	16,673	195,626,207	65,189	2,924
Local	427	37,886	38,165	38,050	38,034	403,280,130	4,919,931	147,627
Federal	147	9,735	9,704	9,711	9,717	148,567,350	0	0
Total Government	680	64,315	64,562	64,393	64,423	747,473,687	4,985,120	150,551
Total UI Covered	35,288	455,082	455,553	457,305	455,980	4,304,775,035	2,489,066,420	78,468,142

A Product of: [Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training, Labor Market Information](#)

Employment changes may be influenced by non-economic code changes resulting from NAICS revisions and/or changes in employers' reporting method.

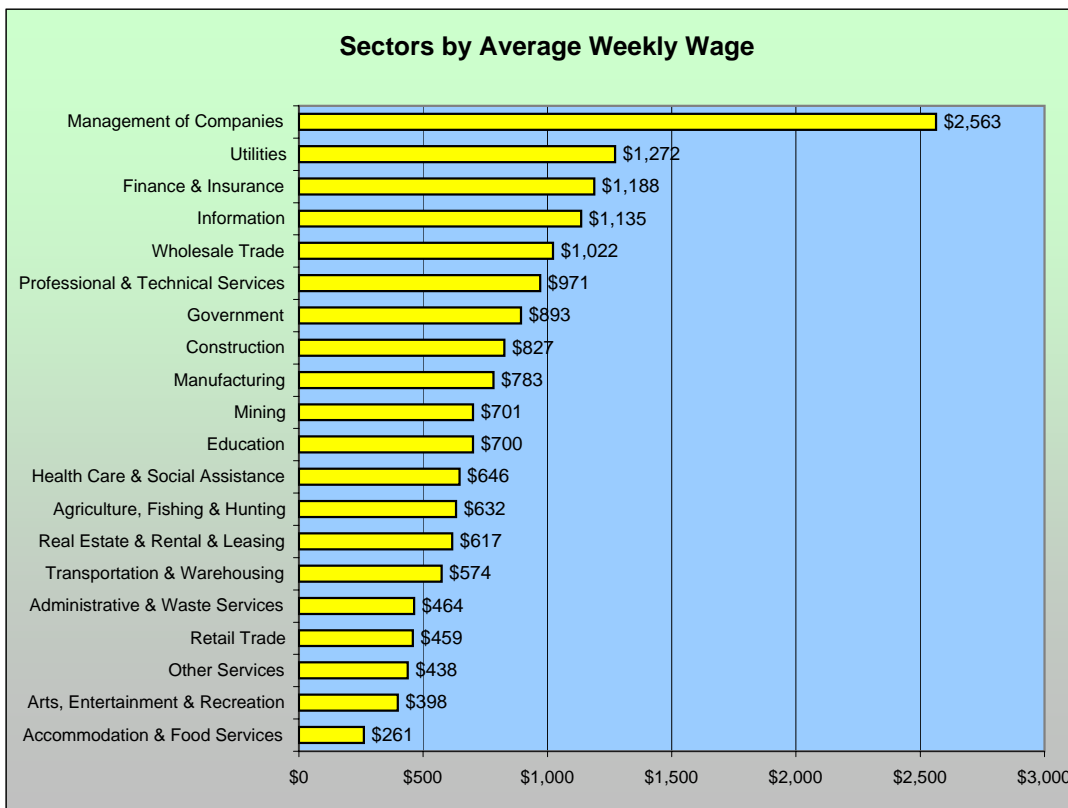
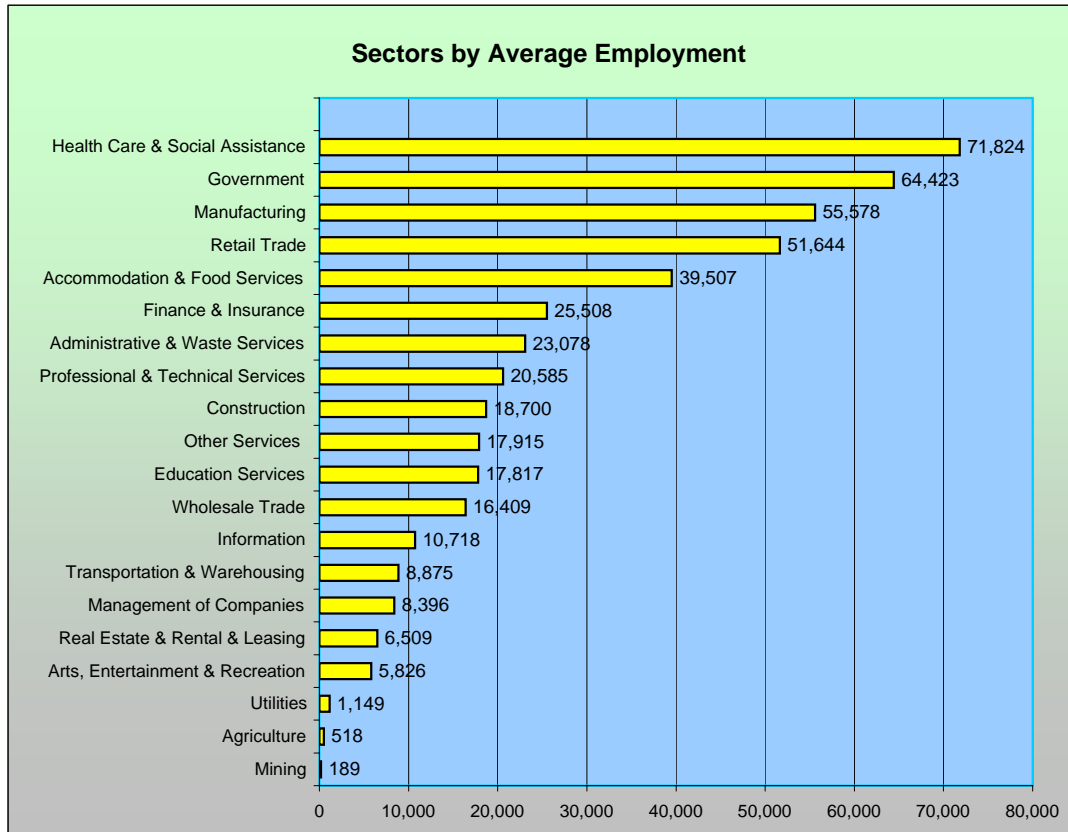
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Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, developed through a cooperative program between the State of Rhode Island and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

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